ABSTRACT

Techniques for annotating an electronic document in an electronic document application are described. A request to add an annotation to an electronic document application is received. An annotation template for the requested annotation is retrieved. The annotation template is external to the electronic document application and the electronic document and includes fixed content, associated instructions defining variable content, and layout information for the fixed and variable content. The associated instructions are executed to define the variable content for an instance of the requested annotation. The instance of the annotation is applied to the electronic document. The annotation instance has an appearance defined by the variable content, the fixed content and the layout information.

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